REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above identified Patent Application in light of the Amendment and Remarks.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner further asserts that there is no support in the disclosure for "a variation in a radius of curvature of an imaging surface of the second optical lens system is opposite to that in a radius of curvature of an imaging surface of the third optical lens system in the sub-scanning direction in accordance with a change in temperature", as recited in claims 1-4.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. Firstly, inherent in any lens system is a curvature and an imaging surface through which an image is formed. The present application discloses a second optical lens system operating in conjunction with a third optical lens system such that variations caused by temperature are eliminated by offsetting variations in each of the second and third lens systems respectively. This concept is clearly articulated on pages 15 and 16 of the specification. Also in paragraph 1 of page 23, the specification clearly articulates that:

although the curvature of field changes in the positive direction both in the main scanning direction and the sub scanning direction caused by a change in volume of the plastic lens in the third optical lens system in accordance with the change in the operating temperature, because the curvature field changes in the negative direction both in the main scanning direction and the sub scanning direction due to a change in volume of the first lens of the second optical lens system in accordance with changes in the operating temperature, the total change in the curvature of field of the whole optical lens system is suppressed ..."

The change in volume of the lens referred to above has inherent to it a corresponding change in a curvature in the second optical lens system. Thus, amendments wherein the variations in curvature in the optical lens systems comprising the invention in response to temperature change are added for clarity, are supported by the specification.

In this regard, Applicant has amended the specification and claims to make clear that a variation in a curvature of an imaging surface of the second optical lens system is opposite to that of a variation in a curvature of the third optical lens system in the sub scanning direction in accordance with a change in temperature.

Since there is no prior art which teaches or suggests the claimed invention as amended, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all objections to and rejections of the present invention.

Applicant urges that this application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits early and favorable action by the Examiner. If the Examiner believes that issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned at (703)-749-1330. The undersigned may also be contacted at kurtzr@gtlaw.com.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commisioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1561

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. Kurtz, II Registration No.: 33,936

Greenberg Traurig 1750 Tysons Boulevard, 12th Floor McLean, Virginia 22102 212-801-2146

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